

Capitation affects primary care physicians' satisfaction with the quality of care they are able to deliver to patients

Primary care physicians in California capitated medical groups were significantly less satisfied with the quality of care they are able to deliver to patients covered by capitated contracts than those covered by other payment sources. However, those in medical group practices and with a higher percentage of capitated patients were more satisfied with capitated care. As capitation expands nationally, these issues need to be given policy consideration both to VHA as veterans begin to have differential coverage based on service-connectedness, means testing, or other insurance coverage. *Kerr EA, Hays RD, Mittman BS, Siu AL, Leake B, Brook RH. Primary care physicians' satisfaction with quality of care in California capitated medical groups. Journal of the American Medical Association. 1997; 278: 308-312.* Contact: Eve Kerr, MD, (734) 930-5100, e-mail at ekerr@umich.edu.